



Scholarship Awards 2

Maverick Stampede: Search for... 3

Great News for Students 3

Generation X: Demon Spawn and... 4

Boundless Information: Too Much... 6

Installations 8

August Staff Awards and... 8

Retirement: Reflection of the 10

Farewell and Many Thanks! 11

C.D.'s Picks 12

Winner of 2 for U: August Staff... 13

August Photos 14

Library Larry 15

Library Calendar 16

UT ARLINGTON LIBRARY

Volume 3, Issue 9

Arlington 130 Bookmarks

The second annual series of collectible bookmarks is hot off the press! This year's series focuses on the City of Arlington's 130th anniversary (1876-2006) and feature photos from our collection. Many of these images can also be seen in the corresponding exhibit *From Horseback to Horsepower: Arlington, Texas, 1880 to 1959*, on display in Special Collections until Sept. 15.

Library staff will distribute the bookmarks during Maverick Stampede activities and at other events throughout the year. Other community organizations like Arlington Public Library and the Fielder House Museum will also have the bookmarks available. If you or someone you know would like to have some bookmarks for distribution or personal use, please contact Information Literacy. We'll be happy to help!

—Evelyn Barker



Above: Five of the seven bookmarks celebrating Arlington's history.

Connections

Scholarship Awards



Above: Brad Guilliford and Barbara Hammond presenting 2006/07 Library Staff Association Scholarship Award check to Burton King.
 Right: Treva Lyday and Jeff Stone presenting award check to Thien Tran in center.



During the August Staff Meeting, the Library Staff Association Scholarship Committee presented the 2006/07 Library Staff Association Scholarship Awards to:

- Thien Tran in Access Services
- Burton King in Information Services

We congratulate and wish them the best as they pursue their education goals and continued contributions to UT Arlington Library.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the fund and made it possible to award two scholarships this year.

A special thank you from the committee to Candy McCormic for designing and printing the presentation checks.

—LSA Scholarship Committee
 Brad Gulliford
 Barbara Hammond
 Treva Lyday
 Antoinette Nelson
 Jeff Stone

Front Page

Photos used for bookmarks from UT Arlington Library Special Collections (top to bottom):

Roy Thompson on a Sunday bike ride in Arlington, 1912. AR 446, Dunlop Photograph Collection.

Arlington Police Officer, 1922. AR 446, Dunlop Photograph Collection.

Three girls at Carlisle Military Academy, 1910. Carlisle Military Academy was a forerunner of UT Arlington. AR 446, Dunlop Photograph Collection.

Group of Arlington women, 1900. Pictured are Mrs. George Goodwin, Mrs. Benton Collins, Mrs. Nute Noah, Mrs. May O’Neal, Mrs. Bud Douglas, Mrs. Noah Deal, Mrs. A.C. Sublett, and Mrs. W.A. Wade. AR 446, Dunlop Photograph Collection.

Members of the first football team at Carlisle Military Academy, 1906-1907. AR 324, University Photograph Collection.

Maverick Stampede: Search for Library Gold

“You should do this all the time,” exclaimed a student as she tasted her snow cone during the August 29 *Maverick Stampede: Search for Library Gold* event. Over 400 cups of the sweet treat were served in front of the Library during the 2-hour event while a nearby jazz band provided entertainment.



Nic Weiss serving snow cones.

Students explored Central Library and participated in the activities sponsored by program areas. One of the most popular was paper marbling. Students lined up and waited to have a chance to make a unique marbled paper that they could take home.

“Sometimes they want to stay here during the entire time and miss lunch,” Barbara Hammond observed. Others entered Information Services’ Guess How Many Candies or had their pictures taken for a vin-

tage poster. After answering questions about Library services, participants were treated to lunch.

UT Arlington Library’s participation in the campus-wide event was possible only because of the enthusiasm and work of over 50 library staff volunteers and many hours

of planning. Perhaps the day could be summed in a participant’s statement, “This event is seriously nice for new students.”

—Lea Worcester

(more photos of this event on page 14)

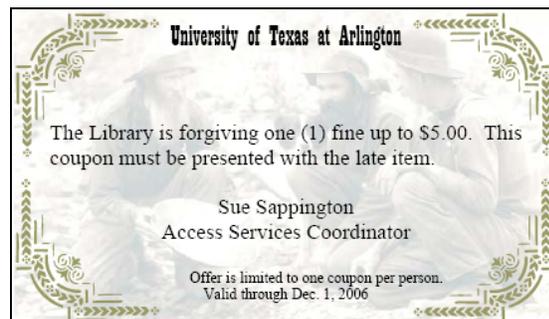
Great News for Students

The Information Fair Committee asked Access Services if the department would offer an “Amnesty” coupon at the annual Information Fair at the Library. The coupon might more accurately be described as fine forgiveness, but it involves the distribution of one coupon to each student at the event that grants the bearer one time forgiveness of up to \$5.00 in library overdue fines.

The *catch* is that the item must be presented with the coupon. Valid coupons are stamped on the back with “Sue Sappington” and can be used until December 1, 2006.

Thanks to the committee for coming up with this great idea and to Dean Saxon for approving it. I am sure that the students will love it!

—Heather Scalf



UT Arlington Library is pleased to announce new checkout periods beginning fall 2006 semester:

- Undergraduate and university staff = 30 days
- Graduate = semester
- Faculty = academic year

Photo on front: We have it rich. Washing and panning gold, Rockerville, Dak. 1889. Old timers / Grabill. Bagshaw Series. Western History/Genealogy Department, Denver Public Library.



Connections

Generation X: Demon Spawn and Slackers

Fourth in a series on generational differences.

Historical Context

Although members of Generation X were born from 1965 to 1981 in the United States, Neil Howe and William Strauss believe that those with Xer attitudes were born starting in 1961. This encompasses the last few years of the baby boom that started in 1946.

Growing up amidst the turmoil and malaise of the 1960s and 1970s, Xers dealt with trends whose aftershocks still affect their adult lives. In larger numbers than previous generations, Xers became victims and perpetrators of increased criminal activity (and more susceptible to drug abuse and suicide) at a younger age. Problems confronted by their parents, such as higher divorce rates and economic difficulties, also made Xers feel insecure about their own lot in life. In education, declining academic scores led older generations to consider Xers stupid and superficial. As a result, Xers have developed a seemingly hard-boiled and apathetic outlook on life. This attitude has fed



Berlin Wall before collapse of the Soviet Union

the cycle even further, with older generations (especially Boomers) chastising Xers for their miscreant ways and slapping them with negative labels. Slacker is perhaps the best known epithet hurled at them, reflecting the stereotypical indifference associated with Generation X. All of these factors constitute the bad image of Xers, which some even take as a perverse compliment.

Superstitious minds should also take note of some unconnected tidbits pointed out by Howe and Strauss. Xers became the 13th generation to live as citizens of the United States, and a large number of films portraying not-so-lovable (and some downright evil) children came out as Xers were being born. At best, children tended to be disrespectful, smart-alecky, devious, or involved in unsavory activities, as in the case of *Paper Moon*

(1973), *The Bad News Bears* (1976), and *Taxi Driver* (1976). At worst, they were conduits or spawns of Satan in films such as *Rosemary's Baby* (1968), *The Exorcist* (1973), and *The Omen* (1976).

As Xers grew up, they had very few defining moments and movements. The *Challenger* disaster in 1986 might come close, but it did not have the same iconoclastic socio-political impact as events and trends encountered by Boomers in their youth. Some might suggest the world-changing events that culminated in the collapse of the Soviet Union (1989-91) as another defining moment. However, Howe and Strauss wrote around the same time that events in Eastern Europe were too distant for many Xers to care about, or even to comprehend. Furthermore, some were skeptical about the prospect of a new and better world in the post-Cold War era. This whatever attitude might have seemed dimwitted at the time, but the skepticism (and perhaps pragmatism) of some Xers seems uncannily prescient 15 years later.

Continued on page 5

Generation X: Demon Spawn and Slackers (cont.)

Since major historical events and trends failed to define Xer youth, one is more likely to consider popular culture a greater influence. Xers latched to some Boomer-created cultural phenomena, such as *Star Wars* and *The Simpsons*, but they have developed quite a few of their own cultural icons. The skeptical and prematurely jaded attitude associated with Xers found expression in punk-inspired Alternative bands, such as Nirvana. Xers also developed rude television shows and movies with sardonic humor, including the irreverent animated shows *South Park* and *Beavis and Butt-head*, Kevin Smith's New Jersey Trilogy of six films (which began with the very low-budget 1994 movie *Clerks*), Quentin Tarantino's pop culture reference-riddled cinematic fantasias, and the self-hating stupid stunt show *Jackass*.

Of course, the generational insouciance and hip irony reflected in Xer cultural artifacts did not develop in a vacuum. As Xers were growing up, popular culture kept presenting highly idealized nuclear families whose lives differed from many Xers' own households. The phenomenon of latchkey children among Xer youth appeared as the number

of dual-income and single-parent households increased. Such circumstances should have brought greater wealth to two-parent families, but it could not compensate for higher costs of living and diminishing purchasing power. Household stability was also put at risk by many factors, including trends toward workplace downsizing. Direct victims included Xers' own parents, some of whom believed that hard work and lifelong loyalty to an employer were sufficient for making it. Older Xers just entering the job market also fell victim if they worked for places that followed a last hired, first fired philosophy.

Xers in the Workplace

Considering the problems encountered by parents and older members of their generation, Xers became more pragmatic about their own employment prospects. In the meantime, the independence they had during their youth inadvertently prepared them with survival strategies to navigate the job market. As a result, they tend to have a mercenary attitude towards employment, and they are less likely to follow traditional career paths.

If Xers feel that they do not

receive sufficient pay and feel job satisfaction, they have little hesitation about leaving their jobs. To retain Xer employees, managers should figure out incentives to get them to stay. This could include training opportunities for transferable skills, which Xers see as crucial to surviving in the job market. Of course, such incentives are not guaranteed to prevent Xers from leaving, but it might be less likely if they believe that managers are willing to invest in them. With relatively few Xer graduates coming out of Library and Information Science schools, good pay and training incentives seem even more important for recruiting new librarians.

In career development, Xers see little value in following a traditional path, or even of having long-term career goals. Once again, memories of downsizing that affected older Xers or their parents make long-term planning seem meaningless. Instead of crawling up a career ladder, Xers want work that they find fun, challenging, and rewarding, and that allows them to synthesize ideas from diverse sources.

In addition to caring little about paying one's dues, Xers

“Instead of crawling up a career ladder, Xers want work that they find fun, challenging, and rewarding. . . .”

Connections

Boundless Information: Too Much of a Good Thing?

As the Internet has quickly evolved into a ubiquitous information source, many people now have unprecedented access to a seemingly limitless variety of audio, visual, and text resources on practically any topic. Ranging from desktop computers to tiny devices with more features than a Swiss Army knife, a diverse arsenal of tools allows people to access information and to communicate from practically anywhere. Furthermore, resource types heralded as the next big thing seem to emerge all the time, including blogs, wikis, and RSS feeds.

As a result of these changes, people now have an opportunity to find information easily, and to share their own ideas with a much wider audience than previously imagined. However, regardless of the reliability of information, its proliferation has caused a number of societal problems. On 13 July, Texas Woman's University hosted a Samuel Lazorow Memorial Lecture on this topic by Dr. David Levy, a professor at the University of Washington Information School.



With the title *Information and the Quality of Life: Environmentalism for the Information Age*, one would imagine that Levy advocates undoing the changes made in the ways we can now communicate and obtain information. However, Levy does not view technology itself as the problem. Instead, he believes that technology has played an unwitting role in the way we now conceptualize our lives. Such an outlook emphasizes efficient production, revolving our lives around schedules and tasks, and believing in a more-faster-better cycle to fulfill perceived needs. It has also de-emphasized the silence and sanctuary required for contemplation.

According to the Levy, our lives have gone out of balance due to information overload and media saturation. With many resources vying for everyone's attention, as well as a work ethic that emphasizes busyness, the ability to concentrate on a single task has undergone

fragmentation. As a result, the pace of life has sped up to fulfill all the commitments we make, and to keep up with what we need to know to stay informed for our lives at (and beyond) work.

While rapid response mode is essential in professions that deal with real emergencies (police, firefighters, ER personnel), the rapid pace of life can compel those in non-emergency professions to handle relatively benign situations as emergencies. To illustrate how an emphasis on speed and efficiency can be counterproductive, Levy mentioned a 2005 incident where a commuter train crashed into an apartment building in Osaka, Japan. The crash killed over 70 people and injured hundreds. The cause? The train was running just 90 seconds late, and the driver felt compelled to speed up in order to catch up with the train schedule.

Although the train wreck in Osaka is a concentrated example of what can happen when speed and efficiency gain priority over other factors (such as safety), the fast-paced world generated by rapid changes in

Continued on page 9

Boundless Information: Too Much of a Good Thing? (cont.)

the information landscape has caused widespread physical and mental health problems. In the workplace, multitasking has lowered productivity; the quality of decision-making has declined; a busyness work ethic has forced workers to sacrifice quality of work for quantity of tasks; and job satisfaction has gone down because workers feel little sense of accomplishment. Furthermore, Levy pointed out dangers to social cohesion, ethics, and democratic governance. This seems ironic, because having access to a variety of information and opinions is an integral part of democracy. However, with an overwhelming choice of resources, people have difficulty sifting through reliable and unreliable information, which is crucial to developing an informed citizenry.

Levy identified two works from the period immediately following World War II that seem relevant to the information landscape of today. In his iconic 1945 *Atlantic Monthly* article “As We May Think,” Vannevar Bush proposed a “mechanized private file and library.” This device, which he called a “memex,” bore an uncanny resemblance to the Internet we know today. Bush hoped such a device would

allow people to devote more time to more meaningful intellectual pursuits, and reduce the time required for mundane tasks. However, as Levy points out, fulfilling the dream of creating a memex-like system inadvertently exacerbated the problems Bush hoped to correct.

Just a few years later, German Catholic theologian Josef Pieper wrote *Musse und Kult* (1948), which was translated into English as *Leisure: The Basis of Culture* (1952). Drawing upon Medieval notions of *ratio* (pronounced “rot-see-oh”) and *intellectus*, Pieper contemplated concerns he had based on recent events in Germany. He believed that an overemphasis on doing tangible things (*ratio*) would make a culture of total work an end in itself. In such a society, the stillness necessary for contemplation and accepting the world as it is (*intellectus*) would vanish. *Intellectus* also facilitates the type of leisure Pieper refers to in his title. The ancient Greek word for leisure (*skhole*) refers to “disposition of receptive understanding, of contemplative beholding, and immersion in the real.” It is also the basis of the Latin word *schola*, from which a number of English cognates derive (school, scholarship, and so on).

Bush’s proposal of a memex, as well as the tensions identified by Pieper between *ratio* and *intellectus*, remains relevant 60 years later. With an overreliance on the descendants of Bush’s ideas, as well as the overemphasis on contemporary manifestations of *ratio* (scheduling, tasks, solid commitments, worship of the Almighty Dollar, etc.), the intangible wisdom brought about by *intellectus* gets pushed to the margins.

Although Levy does not claim to offer firm answers for these problems, he has participated in collaborative efforts to figure out how to achieve a reasonable balance between *ratio* and *intellectus*. He has brought together scholars, businesspeople, religious leaders, and others to discuss the issues relevant to today’s information landscape. Venues include workshops, conferences, a course on information and contemplation, and a proposed Center for Information and the Quality of Life.

Levy suggests several paths to make the world as we believe it should be, but tempered with the wisdom found in setting aside time for contempla-

“In his iconic 1945 *Atlantic Monthly* article “As We May Think,” Vannevar Bush proposed a ‘mechanized private file and library.’”

Continued on page 9

Connections

INSTALLATIONS

After input from Library staff members, the Library Marketing committee has distributed its first issue of *Installations*, a monthly informal newsletter posted in bathroom stalls in Central, SEL, and the Business building.

Each location has its own version of *Installations*. For example, SEL's version boasts about the new graphing calculators available for checkout and Central's mentions the *Wall Street Journal* subscription. *Installations* was designed to mimic bathroom graffiti with the purpose of not only being fun, but quick to read.



tions, please contact the Marketing committee at library-marketing@listserv.uta.edu.

CWYL (Chat with you later)!
—Evelyn Barker

The idea of bathroom newsletters is not unique. UT Dallas Library has a version called “Since you’re here...” Clarion University in Pennsylvania has one called “The WIZ.”

The Marketing committee will test *Installations* for the fall semester then decide whether to expand, maintain, or discontinue it. If you have something you want to mention in *Installations*,

August Staff Awards and Recognitions

Bright Idea Awards

- Gerald Alvarez, Information Services
- Charlotte LeBlanc, Access Services
- Diane Shepelwich, Information Services
- Kathleen Marquez-Houston, Information Services

Applause Awards

- Tom Lindsey, Information Services
- Carolyn Kadri, Special Collections

- Scott Nguyen, Information Services
- Thien Tran, Access Services
- Nicholas Weiss, Information Services

Celebrate You Awards

- Michelle Buchanan, Information Services (2 awards)
- Doug Lewis, Digital Library Services
- Rachel Robbins, Access Services
- Gretchen Trkay, Information Literacy

- Kathleen Marquez-Houston, Information Services
- Nicholas Weiss, Information Services
- Gerald Alvarez, Information Services
- Troy Black, Information Services
- Burton King, Information Services
- Elizabeth Swift, Information Services

Boundless Information: Too Much of a Good Thing? (cont.)

tion of the world as it is. These include the development of deep ergonomics (which goes beyond furniture and tools that supposedly conform to human needs); establishing principles and practices to facilitate mindful work and technology use; developing calm technologies and environments; embodied interfaces that can replicate human interaction; providing better sup-

port for an ecology of thinking; and pragmatically blending the best ideas of modern science and ancient wisdom.

—Jason Neal

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Available in Central Library (two copies):
BJ1498 .P513

Generation X: Demon Spawn and Slackers (cont.)

prefer to work on projects alone, dislike bureaucratic policies and office jargon, and tend to speak their minds. Although stating one's opinion can be valuable, Boomers who have mastered office politics should demonstrate to Xers how patience and diplomacy can help them get what they want, without alienating others to achieve short-term victories. Supervisors of Xers should also provide timely feedback on projects, while figuring out how to back away from micro-managing that Xers tend to find intrusive and counterproductive.

having time to pursue their own avocations. Even if they enjoy their work, Xers do not define themselves by it. Along with commensurate pay and transferable training, managers need to find ways to guarantee that Xers can achieve a reasonable life/work balance. As successors to the Xers, Millennials seek a similar balance. However, as next month's article will examine, their need for greater connectivity and pressures on them to succeed have placed new demands on all the generations previously covered.

—Jason Neal

Xers also want to achieve a healthy balance between working and having a personal life, which includes spending time with family and friends, or just

Next month: Millennials

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Connections

Retirement: Reflection on the Permanent vs. the Ephemeral

“One does not walk away after a mutual investment of twenty-six years in anything – be it a marriage, raising a child, or a career- without very ambivalent feelings.”

Retirement is one of those life-changing events, and as such, many thoughts come to mind. The recurring thought that I have is the contrast of the enduring nature of institutions and the relatively ephemeral nature of the individuals fortunate enough to participate in the growth and development of those institutions. This contrast, in a more general sense, was first brought home to me in an eleventh grade English class in a very small East Texas high school lo many years ago. That small high school had a superb English teacher, and it was she who worked with us as we read Ralph Waldo Emerson’s “Nature” and thus became aware of the continual renewing of Nature as contrasted with the ephemeral nature of man.

In college, a fine sociology professor helped me extrapolate this concept and apply it to institutions. A university, as does nature, continually renews itself with new students each year. During my twenty-six years at the University of Texas at Arlington, that has been my primary guiding light; each fall has brought a sense of renewal. I shall miss that particular renewal as I look for others in the next stage of my

life. Indeed, it is from librarianship that I am retiring, and that in itself gives pause for thought – especially since when I began my career, librarianship was not even in the stars – not for me anyway. Yet, I can truthfully say that I know of no other field that would have provided me with the opportunities to expand my knowledge as has librarianship. As a holder of the M. A. in English, I would have continued to dig deeply into literature; such is my nature – my very being that I owe to my mother and grandfather for having given me my love of the written word by reading to me during my early years. Although history is a closely-related field, and we know that it is impossible to look at the literature of an era without looking at the history of the same era, I am not sure that I would have become the amateur scholar of the U. S. Presidency and leadership in general that I am without the broad range of librarianship to spur me on. Philosophy is another closely-related field, but I know I would not have delved as deeply as I have into the discipline without librarianship having provided the broad base for such exploration. Business is a totally unrelated field, but along the way, I learned that

the leadership qualities that fascinate me as I look at world leaders are some of the same qualities that CEO’s have. I could go on, but my point is that the field that I stumbled upon has made my life so much richer. It has been a bit of serendipity that I did not expect in the beginning. Thus, I am all the more grateful.

One does not walk away after a mutual investment of twenty-six years in anything – be it a marriage, raising a child, or a career- without very ambivalent feelings. So it is with me as I prepare to walk away as it were. Since 1990, I have had a Geoffrey Chaucer poster on the wall next to my computer. It is a poster that was sent to me by a publisher, but I have cherished it as if it were a framed portrait from the British Museum or some other esteemed archive. Having the Chaucer reproduction so near reminds me on a daily basis of his brilliance in capturing what is perhaps the finest portrait of the various and complex elements of society in his *Canterbury Tales*. He gave us an eternal mirror as it were. Across the room, on my door, I have another publisher-issued photograph – this one of twentieth-century genius, William

Farewell and Many Thanks!

Bobbie Stevens Johnson retired after 26 years of service to UT Arlington Library and the community. Speakers (see insert) recognized her devotion to scholarship and contributions to the Library.



Bobbie Stevens Johnson learning of a contribution in her honor from Ruthie Brock.

UT Arlington Library recognized her retirement by purchasing books from recent lists of the Amelia Bloomer Project. The selected titles

represent areas in which she has helped develop the collection: women's studies, educa-

tion, juvenile literature, and picture books.

In addition, Library staff contributed \$1,000 in her honor to the UTA Faculty & Staff Roundhouse Society Scholarship Fund.

(more photos of the event on page 15)

Speakers:

- Dean of University Libraries, Dr. Gerald Saxon
- Associate Director Julie Alexander
- Ruthie Brock
- Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dana Dunn
- Dean of Liberal Arts, Dr. Beth Wright
- Professor and Acting Chair of College of Education, Charles Funkhouser
- Antoinette Nelson

Retirement: Reflection on the Permanent vs. the Ephemeral (cont.)

Faulkner. In this photograph, on a catalog cover from my alma mater, the University of Mississippi, Faulkner is wearing pants with holes and a jacket with a tattered pocket. He is standing in a stable, pipe in one hand, a horse's rein in the other, but what I see, even in this reproduction, is the piercing eyes that saw society and thus enabled the genius to record same. Faulkner, like Chaucer, 500 years earlier, has given us an eternal mirror. These two gentlemen will go with me when I leave. As I pack up my office, I know their likenesses will be the last things to be packed. They serve to remind me of the recurring theme of permanence versus ephemera.

In the life of an institution, twenty-six years is a small slice of time. For me, however, it represents the better part of a career, and I am so very grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of the University of Texas at Arlington Community in general and the University of Texas at Arlington Library in particular. This, after all, is what it is all about – using our time with an institution to make whatever contributions we are able to make, and then stepping aside, knowing that the institution will endure, and that the contributions of those who are, or will be, a part of its present and future will continually nurture it in such a way as to give it an ongoing sense of renewal.

It is indeed with that comforting knowledge that I leave this University, this Library, my dear colleagues from across the spectrum of the entire University community, and this office in which the likenesses of Geoffrey Chaucer and William Faulkner have reminded me that the societies they captured live on, but their portraits were but a snapshot in time – albeit an eternal snapshot.

Bobbie Stevens Johnson, M. A., M. L. S., Interim Coordinator, Information Services, University of Texas at Arlington Library

Connections

C.D.'s Picks

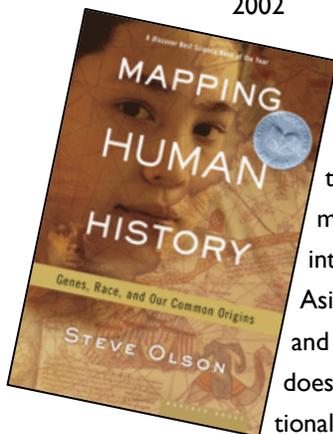
Science for Everyone

Recommendations for the non-scientist who loves science

Mapping Human History: Discovering the Past Through Our Genes

Steve Olson

SEL Books: QH455 .O474
2002



In Mapping Human History, geneticist Steve Olson follows the migration of humans from Africa out into the Middle East, Asia, Australia, Europe, and the Americas. He does not use the traditional “bones and stones” archeological approach. He looks one place for his evidence—inside our DNA.

Along the way, Olson takes great care to discourage those who might desire to use DNA testing to justify racial distinctions between groups. The human race has interbred among groups for thousands of years, and attempting to determine genetic markers that represent distinct races is virtually impossible. We are so inbred that it is likely that every person on earth today has DNA from Julius Caesar, Confucius, and Nefertiti.

The book is broken down into sections representing different continents, and ending with one called “The End of Race,” which looks at Hawaii as a case study. The author also looks at connections between genetic studies of human connections and the evidence found in the archeological record and with linguistic studies of human connections. Languages apparently evolve in a similar manner, though there are not exact correlations, as one can easily adopt a particular language and culture independent of one’s genetic makeup. The evidence accumulated among these various disciplines can work together to provide a clearer picture of human movements over time.

I have long been fascinated by connections among cultural books, and this book provided exactly the kind of information I’ve been seeking.

On the Lighter Side

Non-scientific reading available from UTA Libraries

In the Shadow of No Towers

Art Spiegelman

Central OVERSIZE: PN6727.S6
I5 2004

As the five year anniversary of 9/11 approaches, this book



seemed an appropriate read. This collection of comic strips that appeared in the wake of the attacks is not for the squeamish or easily offended. It will move you, maybe disturb you, and maybe anger you. Spiegelman is angry. He splatters his anger and grief like paint onto the canvas. Catharsis may have eventually mitigated his passion, but we meet it here before that mitigation. We meet him in all his fury—raw and bitter and intense. Some will find it offensive, especially as it takes aim at political figures and policies. Spiegelman was there that day—he and his wife heard the first plane crash as they walked down the street, and turned to see the horror of smoke and fire pouring from the north tower. They ran, panicking, to retrieve their daughter from her school at the foot of the towers. They later outran the toxic cloud spewing from the towers as they collapsed into rubble.

Winner of 2 for U: August Staff Challenge

Is Joan Martinek in Information Organization and Preparation!

Joan and others knew that they could call 23381 if they needed a jump-start or a ride out to their car in a lonely parking lot. In addition to the two services highlighted in the challenge, Ron Cook, Police Department Crime Prevention Specialist, wanted to remind staff that

further information about parking, shuttle services, and call box location, is available at the UT Arlington Police Department web page at <http://policy.uta.edu/index.php?navid=17492>.

—Ron Cook & Lea Worcester



C.D.'s Picks (cont.)

This book brought home to me an idea that ought to be obvious, but hadn't really struck me deeply; people in the vicinity of the crash (and this applies to those in D.C. and Pennsylvania, as well) were traumatized at a level beyond the understanding of those of us who watched it unfold on television. As Spiegelman points out, even uptown New Yorkers seemed to have recovered while he was still numbly attempting to piece together a semblance of normalcy.

This book is part of an attempt by someone intimately affected by the events to process his trauma, anger and terror. The last third or so of the book, I think, represents some of his healing. It seems, at first blush,

to bear no relationship to the pages preceding it. It is a brief history of newspaper cartooning in America, followed by seven plates of original, turn-of-the-20th-Century cartoons.

I think the author explains the abrupt topic switch by using two callouts on the page titled "The Comic Supplement."

"Right after 9/11/01, while waiting for some other terrorist shoe to drop, many found comfort in poetry. Others searched for solace in old newspaper comics."

—In the Shadow of No Towers, #10.

"The blast that disintegrated those Lower Manhattan towers also disinterred the ghosts of some Sunday supplement stars

born on nearby Park Row. They came back to haunt one denizen of the neighborhood, added by all that's happened since." —In the Shadow of No Towers, #8.

Spiegelman resurrects these comic "ghosts" (Katzenjammer Kids, Kinder Kids, Happy Hooligan, etc.), and they appear throughout the *No Towers* comic series. I believe the beauty, clarity, and intelligence of these comics comforted and soothed the author during a chaotic and fearful time.

—C.D. Walter

Connections

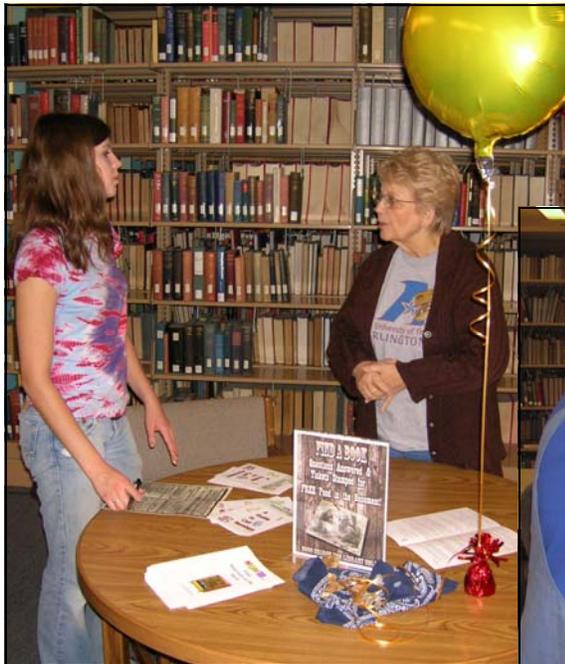
August Photos

Maverick Stampede: Search for Library Gold-August 29



Left: Dean Saxon and Gretchen Trkay handing out fliers to students at the Information Fair.

Below: Brian McDonald and Ellie Curiel at the evaluation table.



Above: Jean Sherwin helping a student learn how to find books.



Right: Barbara Howser explaining Science and Engineering Library's services.

**UT Arlington
Library**

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Connections is the library staff newsletter published the first week of each month. The newsletter introduces new staff members, highlights departments, reports on library staff events, and is a forum for items of interest.

Suggestions and contributions are welcome. Please contact:

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September 2006

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Sat/Sun |
|------------------------|--|---|--|--|-------------------------------|
| | | | | 1 Late Registration | 2 3 |
| 4 Labor Day—Holiday | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 Census Date | 14 | 15 7:30-9:30. Friends of the Library program with Dave Lieber. 6th Floor. | 16 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 Noon-1:30. Banned Book Event. 6th Floor | 21 3:00-5:00. Friday Night Hangout Workshop. Central Library B20. | 22 | 23 24 Banned Books Week |
| 25 | 26 4-6. Faculty Wine/Cheese Reception. 6th Floor. | 27 Noon-1:30. Focus on Faculty-President Spaniolo. Bluebonnet Ballroom. Banned Books Week | 28 | 29 Noon-1. Brown Bag Conversations-Susan Hekman. 6th Floor. | 30 |

Connections is archived online at:

<http://libraries.uta.edu/connections/index.htm>